



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
Taxation and Revenue Department
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Tax Fraud Investigations
(505) 841-6544

Bill Richardson
Governor
Jan Goodwin
Secretary

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CONTACT: David Harwell (505) 827-0313

Financial Investigations Seminar Presented by New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, Tax Fraud Investigations Division

Jan Goodwin, Cabinet Secretary for the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department (TRD) announces that the Tax Fraud Investigations Division (TFID) of her department will be conducting a Financial Investigations Seminar in early December. The 32-hour seminar will begin on Monday, December 4 at 1:00 p.m. and conclude on Friday, December 8 at 12:00 p.m. The seminar will be presented at the Runnels Building, 1190 S. St. Francis Drive in Santa Fe and is approved for 32 hours of CPE for Certified Public Accountants and Certified Fraud Examiners. It is also approved for 32 hours of CEU for Law Enforcement Officers and at least 27 hours of CLE for Attorneys.

Although primarily designed for Federal, State and Local law enforcement personnel, white-collar crime investigators and auditors, this seminar is also a *must* for prosecutors. Those who are interested in learning more about conducting effective and thorough financial investigations will benefit appreciably from this seminar.

The financial investigations approach and techniques taught in this seminar can be used to build a financial profile of anyone, including those under investigation. The approach and techniques learned in this seminar can be useful in investigating the majority of crimes because the majority of crimes have a common thread and are motivated by one thing----money. Income Tax Evasion, Embezzlement, Bank Fraud, Mail Fraud, Wire Fraud, Securities Fraud, Insurance Fraud, Health Care Fraud, Medicaid Fraud, Money Laundering, Racketeering (RICO), Conspiracy, Public Corruption, Extortion, Bribery, Drug-Trafficking, Gun-Running, Illegal Gambling and Prostitution are but some of the crimes that can be investigated and prosecuted successfully using the Financial Investigations Approach.

The lead instructors for the seminar are Alvan Romero, Director for TFID and James H. Maes, Deputy Director for TFID. Both Romero and Maes are retired IRS-Criminal Investigation Special Agents and both are Certified Public Accountants and Certified Fraud Examiners. They have presented the Financial Investigations Seminar for the past 25 years to over 700 New Mexico law enforcement officers and prosecutors from federal, state and

local agencies. Romero and Maes also team up and teach a version of this course as a three credit hour course at the Robert O. Anderson School and Graduate School of Management at the University of New Mexico. Romero, Maes and J. Charles Williamson, a Supervisory Special Agent for TFID, will be instructing sessions at the seminar on the Importance of Financial Investigations, Sources of Financial Information, Tracing the Movement of Money, Direct and Indirect Methods of Tracing Funds.

Other guest presenters will be: Sasha Siemel, Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, District of New Mexico (Evidence and Grand Juries), Peggy Jeffers, Assistant District Attorney, 1st Judicial District Attorney's Office (State Prosecutions), Jody R. Curran, Assistant Attorney General, Special Prosecutions/Investigations Division, Office of the New Mexico Attorney General (Securities Fraud), Aurora Sanchez, Senior Vice President, Chief Operations Officer, 1st National Bank, Artesia (Financial Institutions as a Source of Financial Information), Danette Garcia, Criminal Analyst Supervisor, New Mexico State Police Criminal Investigations Section (Link Analysis), Thomas E. Van Valkenburgh, Forensic Document Examiner, Northern Forensic Laboratory, (Questioned Document and Handwriting Analysis), Jane Bales, Computer Forensic Examiner, Federal Bureau of Investigation (Computer Forensics) and Steve Kotz, Assistant U.S. Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office, District of New Mexico (Money Laundering and Criminal and Civil Forfeitures).

A few notable past graduates include Jan Goodwin, Cabinet Secretary, New Mexico Taxation and Revenue, Kari Brandenburg, Second Judicial District Attorney, David C. Iglesias, United States Attorney, District of New Mexico, Bruce Malott, Managing Principal, Meyners + Company LLC, Certified Public Accountants/Consultants in Business and C. Jack Emmons, Partner, Accounting & Consulting Group, LLP.

This seminar will be limited to 45 participants and fills up almost as quickly as it is announced. The seminar will be limited to no more than four participants from each agency. An alternative list will be compiled for a future Financial Investigations Seminar. This is the fifth time the seminar has been presented in the past three years and attempts will be made to present the seminar at least annually. To sign up, e-mail or place a phone call to Cecilia Martinez, TFID Administrative Assistant, at cecilia.martinez@state.nm.us or (505) 841-5578. Also, to report tax fraud or tax evasion against the State of New Mexico, please call the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789.